

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-7 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 6, and 7 are independent.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, Form PTO-948, indicating whether the formal drawings are approved, with the next official communication.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)/Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,938,447 to Kirksey in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,185,538 to Schulz, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,226,443 to Morioka et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7 is allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 7.

Independent claim 1 recites a combination of steps in a method for specially reproducing sound using an information reproducing apparatus for reading out data from a recording medium having audio data and video data, wherein audio data read out from a recording medium during n-speed reproducing, where n is a

positive number greater than 1, is converted into text data by sound recognition, and the characters representing text data are displayed superimposed on specially reproduced images, wherein contents of the sound which are recorded on the recording medium for n seconds are displayed during one second of the specially reproduced images.

Independent claim 3 recites a combination of elements in an information reproducing apparatus for reading out data from a recording medium having audio data and video data, wherein the audio data read out from a recording medium during n -speed reproducing, where n is a positive real number greater than 1, is converted into text data by sound recognition, and the characters representing text data are displayed superimposed on specially reproduced images displayed in a display device, wherein contents of the sound which are recorded on the recording medium for n seconds are displayed during one second of the specially reproduced images.

Independent claim 6 recites a combination of elements in an apparatus for reproducing information for reading out data from a recording medium having audio data and video data, including a system controller for controlling a reproducing speed of the recording medium; MPEG audio and video decoders for decoding audio data and video data; an image signal processing circuit for performing a signal processing for n -speed producing, where n is a positive real number greater than 1, with respect to decoded video data; a sound recognition

text conversion circuit for converting decoded audio data into text data by sound recognition; and an on-screen character processor for generating video signals displayed by superimposing the characters representing text data with the NTSC reproduced images, wherein during special reproduction performed at n-speed, the contents of audio data for n-seconds recorded on the recording medium are displayed for 1 second.

It is respectfully submitted that the combinations of elements and steps set forth in independent claims 1, 3, and 6 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Kirksey, Schulz, and Morioka et al.

As conceded on page 3 of the Office Action, Kirksey does not disclose an implementation of audio data read out from a recording medium during n-speed reproducing, where n is a positive number greater than 1. The Office Action relies on Morioka et al. for a teaching of a recording and reproducing apparatus for recording and reproducing hybrid data, including video data, audio data and text, such that the system reproduces and outputs all the forms of data. Morioka et al. discloses a recording and reproducing apparatus which includes a signal processing section 117 which is subjected by a recording processing section 118 to signal processing such that the output is recorded by a tape type recording/reproducing section 1112 using a tape medium, as shown in FIG. 11. The signal processing section 117 is subjected to a recording rate conversion by a recording rate conversion processing section 1110 and output to the disk type

recording/reproducing section 1113. The rate of the signal recorded by the disk type recording/reproducing section 1113 is converted into a desired reproducing rate by the reproducing rate conversion processing section 1111. Morioka et al. is completely different from the present invention because whereas Morioka et al. is directed to recording rate conversion of a signal processing section, the present invention is directed to reproducing and displaying sound contents based on the period of time during which the sound contents are recorded. Morioka et al. is not at all concerned with displaying contents of recorded audio data, and therefore does not teach or suggest displaying the contents of audio data for n-seconds recorded on the recording medium for 1 second, as recited in independent claims 1, 3 and 6.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied prior art of record does not disclose or render obvious the present invention as recited in the independent claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims are, therefore, respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 3, and 6 are allowable. Since the dependent claims depend from allowable independent claims, they should also be allowable for at least the reasons set forth above, as well as for the additional limitations provided by these claims. Accordingly, all pending claims should be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

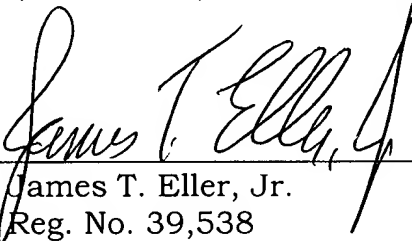
If any issues remain, however, the Examiner is invited to telephone Sam Bhattacharya (Reg. No. 48,1070 at 703-205-8000 in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By: _____


James T. Eller, Jr.
Reg. No. 39,538

JTE/SB/mmi
SB

P. O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000